MCHD – SI June 6, 2005

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Minutes from the Fort Detrick Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting, June 2, 2005

1. Index of Minutes

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2. Attendance

Members Present:

Lieutenant Colonel Donald Archibald, Director, SEIPO (Installation Co-Chair)

Ms. Linda Robinson, Community Member (Community Co-Chair)

Colonel John Ball, Garrison Commander

Mr. Joe Gortva, Environmental Restoration Program Manager, SEIPO

Ms. Helen Miller-Scott, Community Member

Mr. Paul Offutt, Program Manager, Frederick County Health Department

Mr. Douglas Scarborough, Restoration Oversight Manager, US Army Environmental Center

Mr. Curtis DeTore, Maryland Department of Environment

Dr. Gary T. Pauly Community Member

Dr. Henry Erbes, Community Member

Others Present:

Mr. James C. Eaton, Community Member

Mr. Dave Iseri, Shaw E & I

Mr. Keith Hoddinott, US Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine

Mr. Doug Mayles, Analytical Services, Inc. (Recording Secretary)

Members Absent:

Mr. Robert Craig, Chief, Environmental Management Office

Mr. Charles Billups, Ph.D., Community Member

Mr. Larry Bohn, Frederick County Health Department

Mr. William Effland, Ph.D., Community Member

Mr. Thomas Meyer, Project Manager, US Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District

Mr. Dennis Orenshaw, US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), Region III

Mr. Gerald Toomey Community Member

Mr. Stewart Taylor, Community Member

Mr. Craig Toussaint, Community Member

Mr. Thomas Wade, Community Member

Mr. Daniel J. Patton, Community Member

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3. Meeting Opening

Lieutenant Colonel (LTC) Donald Archibald convened the meeting at 7:35 p.m., on Thursday, June 2, 2005 in Conference Room 3 at 810 Schreider Street, Fort Detrick, Maryland.

4. Opening Remarks

Colonel (COL) John Ball thanked the group for their active participation during his tenure at Fort Detrick. COL Ball announced his upcoming retirement from the Army.

5. Area A Update

Mr. Joseph Gortva presented an overview of Area A Long Term Monitoring (LTM). The semi-annual sampling report is complete and will be placed in the public information repository. March sampling field work was completed.

Trichloroethylene (TCE) was detected above the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) of 5 parts per billion (ppb) in only one groundwater well, with a result of 26.6 ppb. Historically in Area A, samples have yielded results in excess of 800 ppb.

A reduced groundwater extraction rate began in February 2003. The current rate of groundwater extraction is sufficient to maintain the groundwater elevation drawdown. TCE sampling results at the installation boundary are below the MCL.

On-going Area A groundwater remediation is taken into consideration for the future construction of the Joint Medical Logistics building and is not currently thought to have an impact on this project.

6. Area A Water Levels

Area A deep groundwater flow conditions observed from the semi-annual sampling performed in September 2004 is similar to historic results. Drawdown is still apparent near Building 568 and elevation contours of both the deep and shallow aquifers are similar.

7. Area B Update

The Area B-1 site close-out report was completed in March 2005 and the site was delisted. Site closeouts projected to occur in October 2005 are Area B-Grid, B-Skeet, B-Ammo, and B-20 North.

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B-Skeet: elevated levels of semi-volatile organic compounds were observed in soil samples where clay-pigeon debris was found. Fort Detrick has decided to remove clay pigeon debris in the area and perform confirmation sampling prior to closing out B-Skeet.

Groundwater wells in the interior of the Area B TCE plume were sampled. These wells have not been sampled for a number of years. Sampling of interior wells will continue to be performed under the Performance-Based Contract (PBC). Interior well sampling will help better define the plume. Concentrations on the perimeter of the plume were generally equivalent to recent sampling events. Well 58D had a TCE concentration of 182 ppb and is at the low end of the historic results range for this well, which ranges from 182-1000 ppb.

Interior well sampling indicates the center of the polychloroethylene (PCE) plume apparently moved to well location 24D. Historic groundwater sample results from well 24D are comparable to the most recent sampling results.

Some historically high PCE concentration areas appear to be declining, while TCE concentration in those same areas appears to be increasing. TCE is one of the products of the degradation of PCE and is thought to contribute to this effect.

PCE concentrations at the perimeter of the plume are generally equivalent to recent sampling, with the exception of well 31D. The results of samples drawn from this well were up over previous recent sampling results by approximately 500 ppb. Groundwater monitoring for TCE and PCE will continue so long as MCLs are exceeded.

Potential groundwater remediation in Area B includes an investigation into whether the aquifer can breakdown TCE and PCE naturally or with the help of additives, i.e. chemical oxidants, bacteria, and nutrients.

8. Area B Water Levels

Current groundwater elevations are approximately five feet higher than December 2004.

9. Area C Update

The Area C final remedial investigation document has been submitted. The feasibility study, proposed plan, and decision documents have been funded. The draft final feasibility study was distributed to RAB members this evening. RAB members have a two week period to review this document and forward comments to the RAB Program Manager. This feasibility study is expected to be final in June 2005.

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10. Performance Based Contract

Mr. Dave Iseri presented information pertaining to the PBC. Completed work includes the Area B Phase III Remedial Investigation (RI) work plan, the extended sampling of groundwater wells and surface water in Area B, and the first round of water towers LTM.

A discussion took place on the progress of the water and wastewater treatment systems privatization. The offer of privatizing these systems has not generated a lot of interest. Unknown infrastructure liabilities were cited as a limiting factor.

PBC works in progress include a plan to complete the landfill RI by the end of 2005, the Polyethylene Diffusion Bag (PDB) sampling pilot project, the Area B-18 closeout, and the Area B groundwater RI planned for completion by March 2007. Due to debris found at Area B-18, an agreement for close-out has not been resolved and plans are being considered to remove the debris.

Initial PDB sampling yielded inconsistent results as compared to the current approved sampling methodology. Sampling will continue using the approved low-flow methodology as it appears that extensive and costly testing would be required to determine if PDBs can be used.

Institutional controls for the water towers were examined for compliance with the June 2001 decision document. One past disturbance of the potentially contaminated areas was noted for the west water tower. Fort Detrick maintains its water tower areas in its Geographical Information System as restricted from building activities. Through proper construction planning, the Fort Detrick Real Property Planning Work Group and the Real Property Planning Board assure no violations of restrictions on water tower areas. Fort Detrick has a permitting and review system in place, which includes a checklist for environmental areas.

Mr. Iseri discussed the planned major items for the PBC including projected completion dates for documents associated with disposal areas and groundwater remediation.

11. RAB Review

COL Ball discussed the decommissioning of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) license in relation to new tenants coming onto the installation. Fort Detrick is held to a higher standard concerning radioisotope disposal when compared to organizations outside of the installation, including Frederick Memorial Hospital.

A discussion took place on the recently discovered leaking gasoline storage tank at a service station located off-post. Methyl tertiary-butyl ether (MTBE) is a groundwater contaminant of concern. Groundwater flow is currently undetermined and the Maryland

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Department of the Environment has required the gas station property owner to conduct an investigation. A recent sample was taken at the Building 568 groundwater production well to determine if Fort Detrick operations were impacted. The sample results were non-detect for MTBE.

LTC Archibald discussed the installation's efforts for RAB membership outreach including assistance from the Public Affairs office.

Ms. Linda Robinson discussed Mr. Eaton as possible new member. Ms. Robinson stated that Mr. Michael Kurtianyk resigned from the RAB.

COL Ball briefly discussed construction at Fort Detrick including the Joint Medical Logistics building, and replacement buildings for U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases, Medical Research Acquisition Activity and the Medical Materiel Development Activity.

The preliminary Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) plan is proposed to impact Fort Detrick by adding an additional 200 personnel. If the current BRAC plan is approved, Fort Detrick's core missions will not change, but personnel will be added to existing functional areas such as laboratory research and medical logistics.

The Enhanced Use Lease (EUL) co-generation power plant was briefly discussed. The hotel convention complex and proposed 18-hole golf course were also briefly discussed.

12. Open Comments

COL Ball expressed his appreciation to all RAB members for their participation and presented each RAB member with a Garrison Commander's coin.

13. Date of Next Meeting

RAB meetings are held bimonthly on the second Wednesday of the month. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, September 7, 2005, at 7:30 p.m., at Fort Detrick, Building 810, Conference Room 3.

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14. Meeting Closing

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:05 p.m.

//Signed//

Reviewed by:

Donald F. Archibald Lieutenant Colonel, US Army Co-Chairman

//Signed//

Approved/Disapproved

Mary R. Deutsch Colonel, US Army Deputy Installation Commander

Enclosures:

Fort Detrick Installation Restoration Program Handout Fort Detrick Performance Based Contract (PBC) Handout

DISTRIBUTION:

Each RAB Member (w/o enclosure)
Each Meeting Attendee (w/o enclosure)